

Application No. 09/987,046

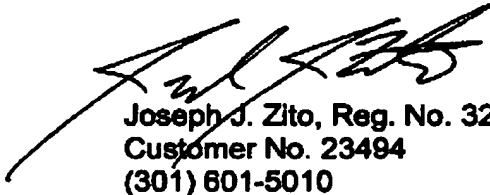
REMARKS

Claims 17 and 18 have been cancelled. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the allowance of claims 1, 8-11 and 13-15, now all the claims in the application.

In view of the cancellation of claims 17 and 18, the only rejection to the claims, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to Issue at the earliest possible time. Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner may contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

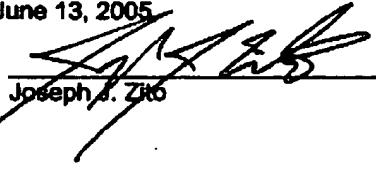
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 20-0668.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office at (703)872-9306 on June 13, 2005.



6-13-05

Joseph J. Zito Date